



ACRB Members

Paul Bartels  
Chairperson  
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Osa Benson  
Bill Bozarth  
William Harrison  
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Labriah Lee  
Ruth Price  
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District 1  
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Alexander Wan  
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Howard Shook  
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Felicia A. Moore  
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Clarence T. Martin  
District 10  
Keisha Lance Bottoms  
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Joyce Sheperd  
District 12  
Michael Julian Bond  
Post 1  
Ron Watson  
Post 2  
H. Lamar Willis  
Post 3

June 20, 2013

Chief George Turner  
City of Atlanta Police Department  
226 Peachtree Street, S.W.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

RE: Complaint of [REDACTED] ACRB File 13-10

Dear Chief Turner:

Please be advised that the Atlanta Citizen Review Board (ACRB) has concluded its investigation and adjudication of the complaint filed by Mr. [REDACTED] alleging that Atlanta Police Officer Reginald Burks (Unique ID # 4197) & Sergeant Eddie Smith (Unique ID # 1040) used excessive force against him during an arrest that occurred on December 16, 2012. Mr. [REDACTED] further alleged that during the incident, Sergeant Smith was verbally abusive towards him.

The Board determined that there was sufficient evidence to **Sustain** both allegations against Sergeant Smith. Therefore, the Board is recommending that the following discipline be imposed in concurrence:

- Excessive Force-Five (5) day suspension
- Abusive Language-One (1) day suspension

The Board determined that the excessive force allegation against Officer Burks be assigned a finding of **Unfounded**.

The file is available for review upon request. The ordinance requires that the Chief respond in writing regarding which recommendations are accepted, rejected, or will be implemented with modifications within thirty (30) days of the submission of a recommendation for action by the Board to the Chief. See Sec. 2-2211(O) of the Ordinance 07-0-0141

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Bartels'.

Paul Bartels  
Board Chair

cc: Mayor Kasim Reed  
Council President Ceasar Mitchell  
Members of the Atlanta City Council  
ACRB Members  
Executive Director Lee Reid



July 16, 2014

**ACRB Members**

William Harrison  
Chairperson

Ruth Price  
Vice Chairperson

Paul E. Bartels  
Secretary

Osa Benson  
Bill Bozarth  
Alan Morris  
Gerald Souder  
Maceo C. Williams, Sr.  
Sherry B. Williams

Samuel Lee Reid, II  
Executive Director

**Mayor of Atlanta**  
Kasim Reed

**Atlanta City Council**  
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Felicia A. Moore  
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Clarence T. Martin  
District 10  
Keisha Lance Bottoms  
District 11  
Joyce Sheperd  
District 12  
Michael Julian Bond  
Post 1  
Mary Norwood  
Post 2  
Andre Dickens  
Post 3

Chief George Turner  
City of Atlanta Police Department  
226 Peachtree Street, S.W.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

RE: Complaint of [REDACTED], ACRB File 13-97

Dear Chief Turner:

Please be advised that the Atlanta Citizen Review Board (ACRB) has concluded its investigation and adjudication of the complaint filed by Ms. [REDACTED], alleging that Atlanta Police Officer Antwan Denson (Unique ID #4772) used excessive force when he tased her fifteen year old son, [REDACTED], during a physical dispute between him and another student that occurred at Grady High School on September 12, 2013.

The Board determined that the excessive force allegation against Officer Denson be assigned a finding of **Sustained**. Therefore, the Board is recommending that the following discipline be imposed in concurrence:

- Excessive Force-Four (4) day suspension
- Training on the use of Tasers on juveniles
- Fourth Amendment Rights

The file is available for review upon request. The ordinance requires that the Chief respond in writing regarding which recommendation is accepted, rejected, or will be implemented with modifications within thirty (30) days of the submission of a recommendation for action by the Board to the Chief (see Sec. 2-2211(O) of the Ordinance 07-0-0141).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'William Harrison'.

William "Bill" Harrison  
Board Chair

cc: Mayor Kasim Reed  
Council President Ceasar Mitchell  
Members of the Atlanta City Council  
ACRB Members  
Executive Director Samuel Lee Reid



**FILE COPY**  
**Received by:**  
*[Signature]* 7/31/14

CITY OF ATLANTA

Kasim Reed  
Mayor

226 Peachtree Street, SW  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303  
(404) 546-6900

\*Atlanta Police Department  
George N. Turner  
Chief of Police

July 30, 2014

Mr. William Harrison  
Atlanta Citizen Review Board  
City Hall Tower, Suite 9100  
55 Trinity Avenue, SW  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

RE: 13-10 Complaint of [REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Harrison:

I am in receipt of the Atlanta Citizen Review Board's letter, dated June 20, 2013, recommending that the allegations of excessive force and abusive language against Sergeant Eddie Smith be sustained and the allegation of excessive force be unfounded against Officer Reginald Burks.

The Atlanta Police Department forwarded a response letter indicating the Office of Professional Standards (OPS) had not concluded its investigation into the allegation surrounding an incident regarding Sergeant Eddie Smith, Officer Reginald Burks and Mr. [REDACTED], and accordingly, had to reject your recommendation. At this time, the investigation has concluded; and as a result thereof, it was determined that Officer Reginald Burks should be exonerated of the allegation that he violated Atlanta Police Department Employee Work Rule 4.2.50, Unnecessary Force. Furthermore, as a result of the investigation it was determined that the allegation of the violation APD Employee Work Rule 4.2.50 Unnecessary Force be not sustained and the allegation of the violation APD Employee Work Rule 4.2.2, Courtesy be sustained against Sergeant Eddie Smith.

Having assessed the Atlanta Citizens Review Board and the Department's investigative findings regarding this matter, I reject the findings of the Atlanta Citizens Review Board.

Major V. Dalton, Commander of the Office of Professional Standards can be contacted at (404) 658-7028, if you have any concerns regarding this complaint.

Sincerely,

*George N. Turner*  
George N. Turner  
Chief of Police

GNT/jw

GRIFFIN 00973



Received by:  
IB 8/6/14

## CITY OF ATLANTA

Kasim Reed  
Mayor

226 Peachtree Street, SW  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303  
(404) 546-6900

Atlanta Police Department  
George N. Turner  
Chief of Police

August 5, 2014

Mr. William Harrison  
Atlanta Citizens Review Board  
City Hall Tower, Suite 9100  
55 Trinity Avenue, SW  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

RE: 13-97 Complaint of [REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Harrison:

I am in receipt of the Atlanta Citizens Review Board's letter dated July 16, 2014, recommending that the allegations against Officer Antwan Denson be sustained for excessive force when he tased [REDACTED] fifteen year old son, [REDACTED] during a physical dispute between him and another student that occurred at Grady High School on September 12, 2013.

Based on its investigation, the Atlanta Police Department's Office of Professional Standards has concluded from its investigation to exonerate Officer Antwan Denson of the charge of Atlanta Police Department Employee Work Rule 4.2.50, Unnecessary Force.

Having assessed the findings of both the Atlanta Citizens Review Board and the Department's investigative summaries, I reject the findings of the Atlanta Citizens Review Board.

Major V. Dalton Commander of the Office of Professional Standards can be contacted at (404) 658-7028, if you have any concerns regarding this complaint.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "George N. Turner".

George N. Turner  
Chief of Police

GNT/jw

GRIFFIN 00974





#### ACRB Members

William Harrison  
Chairperson  
Ruth Price  
Vice Chairperson  
Paul Bartels  
Secretary

Bill Bozarth  
Alan Morris  
Gerald Souder  
Maceo C. Williams, Sr.  
Sherry Williams

Samuel Lee Reid II  
Executive Director

Mayor of Atlanta  
Kasim Reed

#### Atlanta City Council

Cesar C. Mitchell  
President  
Carla Smith  
District 1  
Kwanza Hall  
District 2  
Ivory Lee Young, Jr.  
District 3  
Cleta Winslow  
District 4  
Natalyn Mosby Archibong  
District 5  
Alexander Wan  
District 6  
Howard Shook  
District 7  
Yolanda Adrean  
District 8  
Felicia A. Moore  
District 9  
Clarence T. Martin  
District 10  
Keisha Lance Bottoms  
District 11  
Joyce Sheperd  
District 12  
Michael Julian Bond  
Post 1  
Mary Norwood  
Post 2  
Andre Dickens  
Post 3

September 30, 2014

Chief George Turner  
City of Atlanta Police Department  
226 Peachtree Street, S.W.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

RE: Complaint of [REDACTED], ACRB File #14-002

Dear Chief Turner:

Please be advised that the Atlanta Citizen Review Board (ACRB) has concluded its investigation and adjudication of the complaint filed by Ms. [REDACTED] alleging that on July 12, 2013, Atlanta Police Officer Denis Joseph (Unique ID #5031) falsely imprisoned her when he stopped and detained her without “reasonable suspicion” that she had committed a crime. She further alleges that during the incident, Officer Joseph engaged in unnecessary and excessive force when he pointed his city issued firearm at her face and twisted her arm.

The Board determined that both allegations against Officer Joseph be assigned a finding of **Sustained**, and recommend that the following penalties be imposed:

- **False Imprisonment—Oral Reprimand**
- **Excessive Force—Fifteen (15) Day Suspension**

The file is available for review upon request. The ordinance requires that the Chief respond in writing regarding which recommendation is accepted, rejected, or will be implemented with modifications within thirty (30) days of the submission of a recommendation for action by the Board to the Chief (see Sec. 2-2211(O) of the Ordinance 07-0-0141).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'William Harrison'.

William Harrison  
Board Chair

cc: Mayor Kasim Reed  
Council President Cesar Mitchell  
Members of the Atlanta City Council  
ACRB Members  
Executive Director Lee Reid



**FILE COPY**

C I T Y O F A T L A N T A

Kasim Reed  
Mayor

226 Peachtree Street, SW  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303  
(404) 546-6900

Atlanta Police Department  
George N. Turner  
Chief of Police

December 18, 2014

Mr. William Harrison  
Atlanta Citizen Review Board  
City Hall Tower, Suite 9100  
55 Trinity Avenue, SW  
Atlanta, GA 30303

RE: 14-002 Complaint of [REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Harrison:

I am in receipt of the Atlanta Citizen Review Board's letter dated September 30, 2014 in which it recommends the allegations that Officer Denis Joseph falsely arrested and used excessive force against Ms. [REDACTED] be sustained.

The Atlanta Police Department's Office of Professional Standards (OPS) has concluded its investigation into this incident. As a result thereof, the allegation that Officer Denis Joseph violated Atlanta Police Department Work Rule 4.2.50 unnecessary force **was not sustained**. A preponderance of the evidence contained in the investigative file did not show that Ms. [REDACTED] was falsely detained.

Having assessed the Atlanta Citizens Review Board and the Department's investigative findings regarding this matter, I reject the findings of the Atlanta Citizen Review Board.

Lieutenant J. Webb, Assistant Commander of the Office of Professional Standards, can be contacted at 404-546-5945, if you have any concerns regarding this complaint.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "George N. Turner".  
George N. Turner  
Chief of Police

GNT/jw

**Received by:**

12/22/14



December 30, 2014

**ACRB Members**

William Harrison  
Chairperson  
Ruth Price  
Vice Chairperson  
Paul Bartels  
Secretary

Chief George Turner  
City of Atlanta Police Department  
226 Peachtree Street, S.W.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Bill Bozarth  
Alan Morris  
Gerald Souder  
Maceo C. Williams, Sr.  
Sherry Williams

RE: Complaint of [REDACTED], ACRB File #14-022

Samuel Lee Reid II  
Executive Director

Dear Chief Turner:

Please be advised, the Atlanta Citizen Review Board (ACRB) has concluded its investigation and adjudication of the complaint filed by Mr. [REDACTED] alleging that on March 17, 2014, Atlanta Police Officers Ian Mayfield (Unique ID #4830), Steven Ford (Unique ID #4701) and Robert Fisher (Unique ID #5166) engaged in excessive force and abusive language.

**Mayor of Atlanta**

Kasim Reed

The Board determined that the excessive force allegation be assigned the following:

**Atlanta City Council**

Cesar C. Mitchell  
President  
Carla Smith  
District 1  
Kwanza Hall  
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Ivory Lee Young, Jr.  
District 3  
Cleta Winslow  
District 4  
Natalyn Mosby Archibong  
District 5  
Alexander Wan  
District 6  
Howard Shook  
District 7  
Yolanda Adrean  
District 8  
Felicia A. Moore  
District 9  
Clarence T. Martin  
District 10  
Keisha Lance Bottoms  
District 11  
Joyce Sheperd  
District 12  
Michael Julian Bond  
Post 1  
Mary Norwood  
Post 2  
Andre Dickens  
Post 3

- Officers Mayfield and Ford be assigned a finding of **Not Sustained (the investigation established that there is insufficient evidence to conclude that the alleged misconduct was committed)**.
- Officer Fisher be assigned a finding of **Sustained (the investigation established that there is sufficient evidence to conclude that the alleged misconduct was committed)**. The Board recognizes that Officer Fisher has been terminated from the department as of October 23, 2014. Therefore, the board also recommends that Officer Fisher be terminated and that the department does not re-hire him.

The Board determined that the abusive language allegation against all of the aforementioned officers be assigned a finding of **Not Sustained**.

The file is available for review upon request. The ordinance requires that the Chief respond in writing regarding which recommendation is accepted, rejected, or will be implemented with modifications within thirty (30) days of the submission of a recommendation for action by the Board to the Chief (see Sec. 2-2211(O) of the Ordinance 07-0-0141).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'William Harrison'.

Board Chair  
William Harrison

cc: Mayor Kasim Reed  
Council President Cesar Mitchell  
Members of the Atlanta City Council  
ACRB Members  
Executive Director Lee Reid



Received by:  
2/17/15  
(Signature)

## CITY OF ATLANTA

Kasim Reed  
Mayor

226 Peachtree Street, SW  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303  
(404) 546-6900

Atlanta Police Department  
George N. Turner  
Chief of Police

January 27, 2015

Mr. William Harrison  
Atlanta Citizens Review Board  
City Hall Tower, Suite 9100  
55 Trinity Avenue, SW  
Atlanta, Ga. 30303

RE: 14-022 Complaint of [REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Harrison:

I am in receipt of the Atlanta Citizens Review Board's letter dated December 30, 2014, in which it recommends that Officers Ian Mayfield and Steven Ford be not sustained and Officer Robert Fisher be sustained for the allegation they used excessive force against Mr. [REDACTED].

The board recommended that the allegation of abusive language be not sustained against all the aforementioned officers.

The Atlanta Police Department's Office of Professional Standards (OPS) has concluded its investigation into this incident. As a result thereof, Officers Mayfield, Fisher and Ford were not sustained of the allegation Atlanta Police Department Work Rule 4.2.50 unnecessary force and the investigation did not develop any evidence of any courtesy issues. Mr. [REDACTED] did not provide a statement to the Office of Professional Standards as neither Mr. [REDACTED], nor his attorney cooperated with this investigation.

Officer Robert Fisher is no longer employed with the City of Atlanta Police Department.

Having assessed the Atlanta Citizens Review Board and the Department's investigative findings regarding this matter, I reject the finding of the Atlanta Citizens Review Board.

Major B.K. Martin, Commander of the Office of Professional Standards, can be contacted at (404) 546-5945, if you have any concerns regarding this complaint.

GRIFFIN 00978



Sincerely,



George N. Turner  
Chief of Police

GNT/jw



July 8, 2015

**ACRB Members**

William Harrison  
Chairperson  
Bill Bozarth  
Vice Chairperson  
Paul Bartels  
Secretary

Chief George Turner  
City of Atlanta Police Department  
226 Peachtree Street, S.W.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Alan Morris  
Ruth Price  
Gerald Souder  
Sherry Williams

RE: Complaint of [REDACTED], ACRB File  
#14-018 & [REDACTED], ACRB File #14-032

Samuel Lee Reid II  
Executive Director

Dear Chief Turner:

**Mayor of Atlanta**  
Kasim Reed

Please be advised that the Atlanta Citizen Review Board (ACRB) has concluded its investigation and adjudication of the complaint filed by Ms. [REDACTED] & [REDACTED] alleging that on February 7, 2014, Atlanta Police Officer Denis Joseph (Unique ID #5031) committed the following acts of misconduct: (1) falsely arrested Ms. [REDACTED], (2) slammed Ms. [REDACTED] head into a brick wall, (3) pointed his firearm at Mr. [REDACTED] and (4) engaged in abusive language at them. Mr. [REDACTED] further alleged that the handcuffs were applied extremely tight.

**Atlanta City Council**  
Ceasar C. Mitchell  
President  
Carla Smith  
District 1  
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Natalyn Mosby Archibong  
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Felicia A. Moore  
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Keisha Lance Bottoms  
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Joyce Sheperd  
District 12  
Michael Julian Bond  
Post 1  
Mary Norwood  
Post 2  
Andre Dickens  
Post 3

The Board determined the following:

- The **false arrest** allegation assigned a finding of **Sustained** and recommend that Officer Joseph received a five (5) day suspension and psychological counseling.
- The **excessive force** allegation as it relates only to Ms. [REDACTED] allegation that Officer Joseph slammed her head into a wall be assigned a finding of **Sustained** and recommend that he received a five (5) day suspension and psychological counseling. However, as it relates to the other excessive force allegations raised (*the tight handcuffs and the pointing of the firearm*) the Board assigned a finding of **Not Sustained**.
- The **abusive language** allegation assigned a finding of **Not Sustained**.

The Board further recommends that APD does the following:

1. Any incident that results in the arrest of a citizen, APD should always ensure that the dash cam footage be downloaded and saved;
2. Look into the issue of what took place at the location (999 Dill Avenue) prior to the issuance and execution of the search warrant. Specifically, the allegations that officers went into Mr. [REDACTED] vehicle and appeared to have taken something out of it (*an allegation that was caught on tape*);
3. The incident report indicates that a small plastic bag containing one (1) gram of marijuana was recovered from the passenger side door handle of Mr. [REDACTED] vehicle. However, this item is not listed in the property report and APD's Property Unit has no record of it. APD needs to investigate this matter further to determine what happened to it or if it existed at all;

*Chief George Turner*

*RE: Complaint of [REDACTED], ACRB File #14-018 & [REDACTED], ACRB File #14-032*

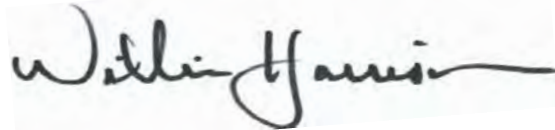
*July 8, 2015*

*Page 2*

4. The Use of Force Report was not prepared until eight (8) months after the incident and only after ACRB's inquiry of its existence which is in violation of APD's policies. Therefore, it is recommended that APD look further into this issue and takes appropriate action that is in accordance with APD's disciplinary matrix; and
5. It is further recommended, to lessen response-errors, such as responding to the wrong location that Sergeant Joseph be counseled on the importance of paying attention to details when given an assignment.

The file is available for review upon request. The ordinance requires that the Chief respond in writing regarding which recommendations are accepted, rejected, or will be implemented with modifications within thirty (30) days of the submission of a recommendation for action by the Board to the Chief (*see Sec. 2-2211(O) of the Ordinance 07-0-0141*).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William Harrison", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

William Harrison  
Board Chair

cc: Mayor Kasim Reed  
Council President Ceasar Mitchell  
Atlanta City Council Members  
ACRB Members  
Executive Director Lee Reid

**ACRB Members**

Sherry Williams  
Chairperson  
Gerald Souder  
Vice Chairperson  
Paul Bartels  
Secretary

Bill Bozarth  
M. Gino Brogdon, Jr.  
Harold Hardnett  
William Harrison  
Cecilia Houston-Torrence

Samuel Lee Reid II  
Executive Director

**Mayor of Atlanta**

Kasim Reed

**Atlanta City Council**

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Keisha Lance Bottoms  
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Joyce Sheperd  
District 12  
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Mary Norwood  
Post 2  
Andre Dickens  
Post 3

September 22, 2016

Chief George Turner  
City of Atlanta Police Department  
226 Peachtree Street, S.W.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

RE: Complaint of [REDACTED], ACRB File #16-031

Dear Chief Turner:

Please be advised that the Atlanta Citizen Review Board (ACRB) has concluded its investigation and adjudication of the complaint filed by [REDACTED] alleging that on February 17, 2016, while at the Zone 5 precinct, Atlanta Police Officers Alex Crawford (Unique ID #3765) and Laszlo Szutor (Unique ID #5383) engaged in unnecessary excessive force when they grabbed him out of a chair, slammed him against the wall, pulled his neck back and then pushed him back into the chair.

The Board determined that the Excessive Force allegation against both Officers Crawford and Szutor be assigned a finding of **Sustained (and disagreed with the Staff's recommendation of Not Sustained for the following reasons:**

The standard for the board to decide these complaints is preponderance of the evidence which is also described as more likely than not. In this case, Mr. [REDACTED] said excessive force was used against him and described his injuries very specifically. After the incident, Mr. [REDACTED] was sent to jail for six days and immediately upon his release he went to Grady Hospital and reported the exact same injuries. Also, the officers failed to include vital information pertaining to the case in their reports. Mr. [REDACTED] had injury complaints/requests for medical attention and the officers made a stop while Mr. [REDACTED] was in custody. There was no reason to leave this information out of the reports and this goes directly to the officers' credibility. When you combine the evidence of Mr. [REDACTED] consistent medical complaints, his determination to still go to Grady Hospital for treatment six days after the incident and the failure to include vital information in the reports, the Board found that the officers more likely than not were excessive in the force they used against Mr. [REDACTED].

As penalty, the Board recommends that Officers Crawford and Szutor receive written reprimands and training on de-escalation.

The Board further recommends that the APD does the following:

1. Both Officers Szutor and Crawford failed to put in their reports that both arrestees (Mr. Jackson and Mr. Johnson) were relocated to the Zone 5 precinct before transporting them to jail. APD.SOP.2010, Section 4.2.21 requires officers to submit complete and accurate reports. Therefore, the Board should recommend that the APD reviews the evidence (the incident reports) and takes appropriate action against both officers that is in accordance with APD's disciplinary matrix.
2. Look into Mr. Jackson's claim that, while at the Zone 5 precinct, his request for medical attention to Officers Szutor, Crawford and an unidentified lieutenant or sergeant was denied.

The file is available for review upon request. The ordinance requires that the Chief respond in writing regarding which recommendations are accepted, rejected, or will be implemented with modifications within thirty (30) days of the submission of a recommendation for action by the Board to the Chief (see Sec. 2-2211(O) of the Ordinance 07-0-0141).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sherry'.

Sherry B. Williams  
Board Chair

cc: Mayor Kasim Reed  
Council President Ceasar Mitchell  
Members of the Atlanta City Council  
ACRB Members  
Executive Director Lee Reid



RECEIVED  
11/2/16 LB

CITY OF ATLANTA

Kasim Reed  
Mayor

226 Peachtree Street, SW  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303  
(404) 546-6900

Atlanta Police Department  
George N. Turner  
Chief of Police

November 2, 2016

Ms. Sherry Williams  
Atlanta Citizen Review Board  
City Hall Tower, Suite 9100  
55 Trinity Avenue, SW  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

RE: 16-31 Complaint of [REDACTED]

Dear Ms. Williams:

I am in receipt of the Atlanta Citizen Review Board's letter pertaining to the complaint of [REDACTED] recommending that the allegation of excessive force be sustained against Officers Alex Crawford and Laszlo Szutor.

The Office of Professional Standards has concluded its investigation and it has determined from evidence to not sustain Officers Crawford and Szutor for the Atlanta Police Department Work Rule 4.2.50 Unnecessary Force and agrees with the ACRB staff's recommendation to not sustain. In review of the file, there appears to be no evidence that Mr. [REDACTED] made any claims of injury, nor was there any evidence that any physical altercation took place while Mr. [REDACTED] was in the custody of Officers Szutor and Crawford. Officers Szutor and Crawford stated that there was no supervisor present during their encounter with Mr. [REDACTED] and there was no need for supervisor intervention. In addition, it is not uncommon for officers to go to the precinct to complete citations, reports and complete warrants while an individual is in custody prior to taking them to jail and since there was nothing of significance reported, there stop at the precinct may have been omitted.

Having assessed the Atlanta Citizen Review Board's and the Department's investigative findings regarding this matter, I reject the findings of the Atlanta Citizen Review Board.

Major J. Durant, Commander of the Office of Professional Standards, can be contacted at (404) 546-5945, if you have any concerns regarding this complaint.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'George N. Turner'.

George N. Turner  
Chief of Police

GNT/jw

GRIFFIN 00983





Received by:  
MUR 12/21/16

## CITY OF ATLANTA

Kasim Reed  
Mayor

226 Peachtree Street, SW  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303  
(404) 546-6900

Atlanta Police Department  
George N. Turner  
Chief of Police

December 16, 2016

Ms. Sherry Williams  
Atlanta Citizen Review Board  
City Hall Tower, Suite 9100  
55 Trinity Avenue, SW  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

RE: 14-018 Complaint of [REDACTED]

Dear Ms. Williams:

I am in receipt of the Atlanta Citizen Review Board's letter pertaining to the complaint of [REDACTED], recommending that the allegations of false arrest and excessive force be sustained against Officer Denis Joseph.

The Office of Professional Standards has concluded its investigation and it has determined, from evidence, to exonerate Officer Denis Joseph for the Atlanta Police Department work rule 4.1.1 Appropriate Action Required and not sustain Officer Joseph for the Atlanta Police Department work rule 4.2.50 Unnecessary Force.

The evidence shows that Officer Denis Joseph was dispatched on a legitimate call for service, and while doing so he mistakenly went to the wrong address, which appeared to be done in good faith. Officer Joseph did observe what appeared to be a violation of the law; the burning smell of marijuana coming from a vehicle parked in the driveway. Afterwards, he attempted to investigate the possible illegal drug activity. In the investigation review, there appears to be no evidence that would suggest Officer Joseph falsely arrested Ms. [REDACTED] during this incident. There was also no evidence that Officer Joseph used excessive force when he took Ms. [REDACTED] into custody. The video supplied by the complainants does not show the actual hands-on portion of the incident. Differing of opinions on the level of force used by Officer Joseph exists, and the medical records of Ms. [REDACTED] do not support her level of injury she claims to have sustained. There was also no evidence that Officer Joseph used any profane language towards Ms. [REDACTED] during this incident. WatchGuard video is regularly saved in any situation where it is deemed necessary and pertinent; as noted in the investigation. Ms. [REDACTED] believes that there should be video from Officer Joseph's patrol vehicle documenting the incident; however, the incident was not a "triggered event" in the WatchGuard system. In any event, Officer Joseph's vehicle was parked facing down the street and the incident took place perpendicular to the car's positioning (outside the camera's view). Officer Michael Soprano was sustained for the Atlanta Police Department work rule violation of 4.2.33 Conformance to Directives. Ms. [REDACTED] made an allegation that money was taken from her vehicle at the time of her arrest. In review of the

GRIFFIN 00984

neighbors phone video, you can see several officers standing around the open trunk of the vehicle while it was being searched but all the officers on the scene deny taking any money. The cell phone video did show Officer Soprano entering both passenger and driver side of the complainant's vehicle prior to the issuance of a search warrant and he therefore received an oral admonishment. It should be noted that 3.2 ounces of marijuana was turned into property control by Officer Joseph; this total amount included marijuana found in the house pursuant to the search warrant as well as a small amount found in the car when an APD K9 dog alerted on it. This investigation did reveal that Sgt. Andrew Cerul failed to prepare a use of force report required by policy at the time of the incident. Sgt. Cerul was sustained for his violation of the policy and issued an oral admonishment.

Having assessed the Atlanta Citizens Review Board and the Department's investigative findings regarding this matter, I reject the findings of the Atlanta Citizens Review Board.

Major J. Durant, Commander of the Office of Professional Standards, can be contacted at (404) 546-5945, if you have any concerns regarding this complaint.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "George N. Turner", is written over a horizontal line.

George N. Turner  
Chief of Police

GNT/jw

**ACRB Members**

Cecilia Houston-Torrence  
Chairperson

Tamara Orange  
Vice Chairperson  
Tracee McDaniel  
Secretary

Trudy Boyce  
James Hardy  
Keith Hasson  
Gloria Hawkins-Wynn  
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**KEISHA LANCE BOTTOMS**  
Mayor of Atlanta

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District 8  
Dustin Hills  
District 9  
Andrea L. Boone  
District 10  
Marci Collier Overstreet  
District 11  
Joyce Sheperd  
District 12#  
Michael Julian Bond  
Post 1 At Large  
Matt Westmoreland#  
Post 2 At Large  
Andre Dickens#  
Post 3 At Large

October 25, 2019

Chief Erika Shields  
City of Atlanta Police Department  
226 Peachtree Street, S.W.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

RE: Complaint of [REDACTED], ACRB File #15-024

Dear Chief Shields:

Please be advised that the Atlanta Citizen Review Board ("ACRB") has concluded its investigation and adjudication of the complaint filed by [REDACTED] alleging that on February 1, 2015, he was involved in a motor vehicle accident and Sgt. Darren Barr (Unique ID #2030) falsely arrested him.

Mr. [REDACTED] also alleged that during the incident, excessive force was used when: (1) Sgt. Barr threatened to shoot him in the face, (2) Sgt. Barr and Officer Tyler Summey (Unique ID #5348) tased him multiple times, and (3) Officer Summey struck him with a patrol vehicle.

Mr. [REDACTED] further alleged that Sgt. Barr and Officers Tyler Summey, William Wilson (Unique ID #6027), and Timothy Cone (Unique ID #5799) teased him and called him derogatory names while viewing the taser video footages of the incident.

**The Board determined the following:**

1. The allegation of **Appropriate Action Required** related to the false arrest claim against Sgt. Barr be assigned a finding of **Exonerated**.
2. The allegation of **Excessive Force** related to Sgt. Barr placing his Taser on the back of Mr. [REDACTED] neck be assigned a finding of **Sustained and Recommends, as penalty, Training on Use of Force**.
3. The allegation of **Excessive Force** related to the Tasing of Mr. [REDACTED] against Sgt. Barr and Officer Summey be assigned a finding of **Exonerated**.
4. The allegation of **Excessive Force** related to Mr. [REDACTED] claim that Officer Summey struck him with his patrol car be assigned a finding of **Unfounded**.
5. The allegation of **Abusive Language** against Sgt. Barr and Officers Summey, Wilson and Cone be assigned a finding of **Not Sustained**.

*Continued Page 2*

*Chief Erica Shields*

*RE: Complaint of [REDACTED], ACRB File #15-024*

*October 25, 2019*

*Page 2 of 2*

The file is available for review upon request. The ordinance requires that the Chief respond in writing regarding which recommendations are accepted, rejected, or will be implemented with modifications within thirty (30) days of the submission of a recommendation for action by the Board to the Chief, (see Sec. 2-2211(O) of the Ordinance 07-0-0141).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cecilia Houston-Torrence".

Board Chair

cc: Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms  
Council President Felicia Moore  
Members of the Atlanta City Council  
ACRB Members  
Executive Director Lee Reid



## CITY OF ATLANTA

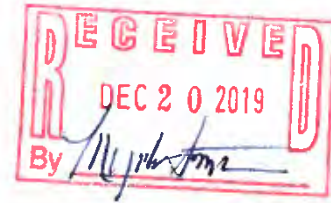
KEISHA LANCE BOTTOMS  
MAYOR

226 PEACHTREE STREET, SW  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303  
404-546-6900

ATLANTA POLICE DEPARTMENT  
ERIKA SHIELDS  
CHIEF OF POLICE

December 9, 2019

Ms. Cecilia Houston-Torrence, Chairwoman  
Atlanta Citizen Review Board  
City Hall Tower - Suite 9100  
55 Trinity Avenue SW  
Atlanta, GA 30303



**Re: APD Control # 15-C-0104-UAF / ACRB File # 15-024**

Dear Ms. Cecilia Houston-Torrence:

I am in receipt of the Atlanta Citizen Review Board's letter regarding the complaint of Mr. [REDACTED], the alleged actions of Atlanta Police Sergeant Darren Barr, Officers Tyler Summey, Timothy Cone and William Wilson on the 1<sup>st</sup> of February 2015, and the Board's determination. An investigation by the Atlanta Police Department's Office of Professional Standards was completed. This letter serves, in accordance with Sec. 2-2213 of the City of Atlanta Code of Ordinances, as a delineation of action taken with respect to the Atlanta Police investigation of the event.

The Atlanta Police Department's Office of Professional Standards conducted and closed its investigation in August of 2015. The Office of Professional Standards found Sergeant Barr and Officer Wilson Exonerated in the use of force allegations in the incident. There was insufficient evidence to sustain or exonerate Office Summey, and he was found Not Sustained on an unnecessary force allegation. There was also insufficient evidence to sustain or exonerate Sergeant Barr as well as Officers Summey and Wilson on an allegation of discourtesy to the complainant. As such, all three were found Not Sustained on that allegation. Officer Timothy Cone was interviewed and classified as a witness only in the investigation.

Regarding the Board's finding of Sustained for Sergeant Barr on the Taser misuse allegation, the Office of Professional Standards found his Taser usage within policy after the investigation was concluded. Sergeant Barr retired from the Atlanta Police Department on August 2<sup>nd</sup> of 2018 and is no longer an active employee.

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The Sustained ACRB finding against Sergeant Barr notwithstanding, the Board's findings are markedly similar to our Department findings. There were differing statements on the allegation that the complainant was struck by Officer Summey with his police vehicle, so the OPS finding of Not Sustained differs slightly from the Board's Unfounded finding on the issue.

I appreciate the opportunity to correspond with the Atlanta Citizen Review Board, and to be made aware of the concerns of the Board. Please do not hesitate to reach-out with any future questions.

Sincerely,



Erika Shields  
Chief of Police  
City of Atlanta Police Department

ES/sj